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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Honorable Max Baucus
United States Senate
107 Fifth Street North
Great Falls, Montana 59401

Dear Senator Baucus:

This responds to your letter of October 5, 1993, addressing the 2 GHz Personal Communications Services (PCS) proceeding, GEN Docket No. 90-314. Your constituent, Richard Pokorny, President of Triangle Telephone Cooperative Association, Inc., expresses support for a PCS licensing structure that permits small and rural telephone system participation.

On September 23, 1993, the Commission adopted final rules to govern PCS. The Commission allocated 120 megahertz of spectrum for licensed PCS and adopted licensing areas based upon 492 Basic Trading Areas (BTAs) and 51 Major Trading Areas (MTAs); 60 megahertz of spectrum were allocated for BTAs and 60 megahertz for MTAs. Local exchange carriers may apply for PCS licenses on the same basis as other applicants.

In a companion Notice of Proposed Rule Making to implement competitive bidding rules, PP Docket No. 93-253, consistent with the Omnibus Reconciliation Act, the Commission proposes to award PCS licenses by competitive bidding. The Commission also proposed licensing preferences in one 20 megahertz and one 10 megahertz frequency block within the allocation for BTA's for rural telephone companies, small businesses, and businesses owned by minorities and women.

The Commission's decisions addressing PCS are designed to foster competition among PCS providers and between PCS providers and cellular radio operators and to ensure expeditious provision of PCS in both urban and rural areas. I am enclosing the press releases for the dockets addressed above that more fully describe the Commission's actions.

Sincerely,

Duce Franca

for Thomas P. Stanley
Chief Engineer

Enclosures

MAX BAUCUS
MONTANA

WASHINGTON, DC
(202) 224-2851

MONTANA TOLL FREE NUMBER
1-800-332-8106

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2602

DET
90-314
4096

October 5, 1993

Mr. James H. Quello
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Quello:

Enclosed is correspondence I have received from my constituent, Richard Pokorny, President of Triangle Telephone Cooperative Association, Inc.. I would appreciate having your views and findings on the statements the letter contains regarding your support for small and rural telephone systems.

Please include in your response, the constituent's name and address and send your reply directly to my Great Falls field office. The address is:

U. S. Senator Max Baucus
107 Fifth Street North
Great Falls, Montana 59401

The phone number is (406) 761-1574. FAX number is (406) 727-3726.

Thank you for your assistance in responding to the concerns of my constituents.

With best personal regards, I am

Sincerely,

Max Baucus

MSB/bro
Enclosure

Triangle Telephone Cooperative Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 1230 • Havre, Montana 59501 • Phone (406) 265-7807

Fax 406-265-7801

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September 1, 1993

The Honorable Max Baucus
United States Senate
Room 511, Senate Hart Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

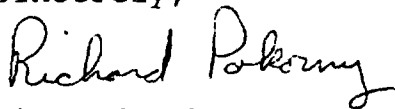
Dear Senator Baucus:

I am writing to ask you to contact Federal Communications Commission Chairman James H. Quello and Commissioners Andrew C. Barrett and Ervin S. Duggan strongly encouraging them to fully achieve the objectives of the recently passed budget reconciliation law by ensuring that small and rural telephone systems are able to provide new services, such as PCS, under an auction regime.

The budget reconciliation law requires the FCC to ensure new technologies are rapidly deployed in rural areas. It also requires that licenses be distributed to a wide variety of applicants, including rural telephone companies.

Small and rural telephone systems are best situated to assure new services and technologies reach rural subscribers. They have a proven track record of delivering state-of-the-art technologies to their subscribers in rural America. Please urge the FCC to ensure that we can continue to do so.

Sincerely,



Richard Pokorny
President

RP:ds